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THE ALL-NEW, ALL-DIFFERENT

X-MEN



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THE ANGEL IS BACK! AND HE'S COME TO MURDER THE NEW X-MEN WITH THEIR OWN LEADER'S DEADLY EYE BLASTS!

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DARK SHROUD OF THE PAST!



STAN LEE
PRESENTS

THE UNCANNY X-MEN!

DARK SHROUD OF THE PAST!

IT BEGAN WITH A DREAM,
AN ETHEREAL, ELDRITCH
PLEA FOR HELP THAT
REACHED ACROSS THE
UNIVERSE TO TOUCH
CHARLES XAVIER'S
MIND.

DO NOT
PLAY GAMES
WITH ME, HUMAN--
WHERE IS
PHOENIX?!

I TOLD YOU, FIRELORD--
SHE AND THE X-MEN
ARE WHERE YOU CANNOT
REACH THEM, TRANS-
PORTED BY THIS
STARGATE ACROSS
INFINITY--

--TO
SAVE THIS
UNIVERSE,
IF THEY
CAN, FROM
ABSOLUTE
DESTRUCTION!

AYE, FIRST XAVIER'S DREAM,
AND THEN THE WOMAN OF
HIS DREAMS-- LILANDRA,
AN ALIEN PRINCESS WHOSE
LIFE AND SOUL HAVE BEEN
BOUND TO HIS IN WAYS HE'S
ONLY JUST BEGUN TO
COMPREHEND.

SHE'D REACHED THE EARTH,
REACHED XAVIER, ONLY TO BE
CAPTURED BY ERIC THE RED--
AN IMPERIAL SECRET AGENT
ASSIGNED TO STOP HER AT
ANY COST. HE'D TAKEN HER
THROUGH THE STARGATE,
LEAVING FIRELORD TO FINISH
OFF THE X-MEN. BUT, INSTEAD,
THEY FOLLOWED...

A CLAREMONT • MANTLO • BROWN • COCKRUM • BUTTON • ROSEN • YANCHUS • GOODWIN production!

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...LEAVING CHARLES XAVIER MORE HELP-
LESSLY ALONE THAN HE'S EVER BEEN.

MY... MIND! I--I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME!

WHEN LILANDRA APPEARED, ALL THE CONFUSION, THE ANGUISH I'VE FELT THESE PAST MONTHS DROPPED AWAY...

...BUT NOW THAT SHE'S GONE, IT'S AS IF MY VERY SOUL HAS BEEN TORN OUT OF ME!

PROFESSOR XAVIER!

THE NIGHTMARES ARE COMING FOR ME AGAIN-- AND I'VE NO STRENGTH LEFT TO FIGHT THEM!

THE HUMAN CRIED OUT: IS HE IN PAIN?

WHAT D'YOU CARE, BUSTER? YOU TRIED TO KILL HIM!

IN GOD'S NAME, FIRELORD, WHAT GIVES YOU THE RIGHT TO PLAY JUDGE, JURY AND EXECUTIONER?! WE'VE DONE YOU NO HARM!*

*MISTY DOESN'T KNOW THAT LAST ISN ERIC THE RED BURNED FIRELORD INTO ATTACKING THE X-MEN--ARCHVIST ARCHIE.

THE DREAM, MOIRA--! EVERY NIGHT... THE SAME... DREAM! EVERY NIGHT IT PULLS ME IN... DEEPER.

HELP ME, MOIRA! YOU'RE THE... ONLY ONE I DARE... TRUST. I... CAN'T FIGHT IT MUCH... LONGER!

OH, LORD, HE THINKS I'M MOIRA MACTAGGERT. HE CAN'T DEAL WITH REALITY ANYMORE, SO HE'S RUNNING INSIDE, TRYING TO HIDE.

HELP ME... PLEASE.

BUT EVEN NOW, THE DREAM WON'T LET HIM GO. IT SWEEPS XAVIER BACK IN TIME TO THE X-MEN'S WESTCHESTER MANSION, A FEW DAYS AFTER MOIRA MACTAGGERT'S ARRIVAL.*

O' COURSE, I WILL, CHARLES. THAT'S WHY I CAME WHEN YOU CALLED ME.

*X-MEN #96--ARCH.

SO GOOD TO ME... MOIRA... I... I'M SO SORRY I HURT YOU...

SLEEP, CHARLES. THE SEDATIVE I GAVE YOU SHOULD KEEP YOUR NIGHTMARES AWAY FOR A TIME.

AH, IT HURTS ME TO SEE YOU SO... BECAUSE BREDDI, EVEN AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, PART O' ME LOVES YOU STILL.

SHE LEAVES HIM, THEN, CEREBRO'S BIOMED SENSORS WILL KEEP AN EYE ON XAVIER FOR THE NEXT FEW HOURS, WHILE MOIRA MACTAGGERT TURNS HER ATTENTION TO HER OTHER CHARGES...

...THE X-MEN NOW HARD AT WORK, TRAINING IN THE MANSION'S DANGER ROOM.

WAY TO GO, WOLVIE! DODGIN' THESE LASERS IS A PEACH COMPARED TO RUNNIN' THE ASSAULT COURSE BACK AT ALPHA BASE.

WOLVERINE, LOOK OUT! ABOVE YOU!!

HE'S NOT LISTENING! HE'S CONCENTRATING SO HARD ON THE...LASER BEAMS--

-- THAT HE HASN'T NOTICED THE STEEL GIRDER FALLING ON HIM FROM THE CEILING!

I'VE NO TIME TO BE GENTLE!

YOU CRAZY RUSSIAN! WHAT D'YOU THINK YER DO--

WHOU-U-UFF!

I AM SAVING YOUR LIFE, COMRADE--

-- THOUGH, AT THE MOMENT, I'M BLESSED IF I KNOW WHY.

UNNNNGHH!

KER-WRAM!

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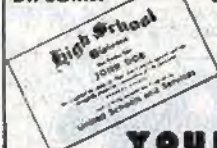


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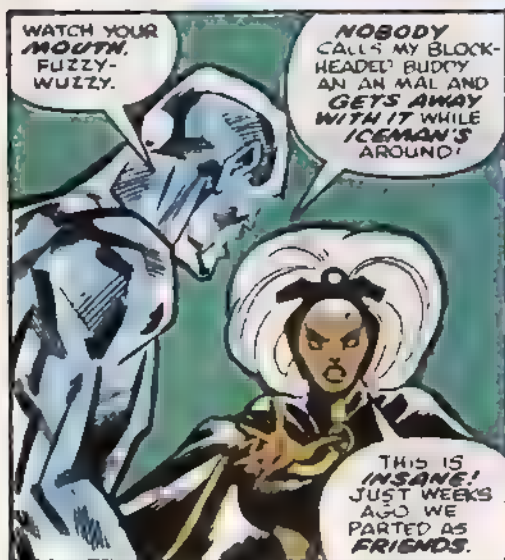
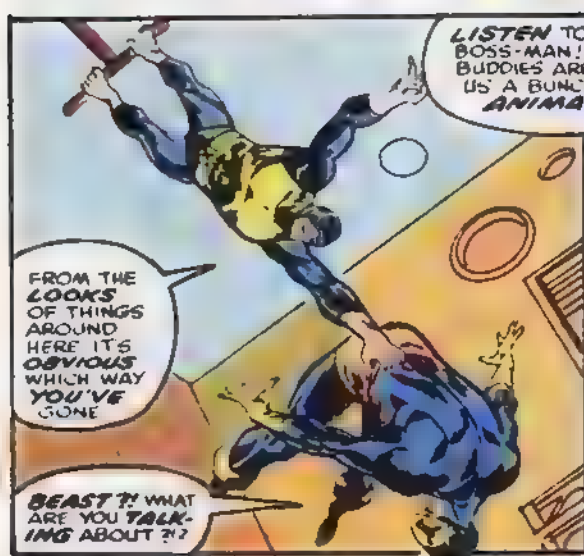
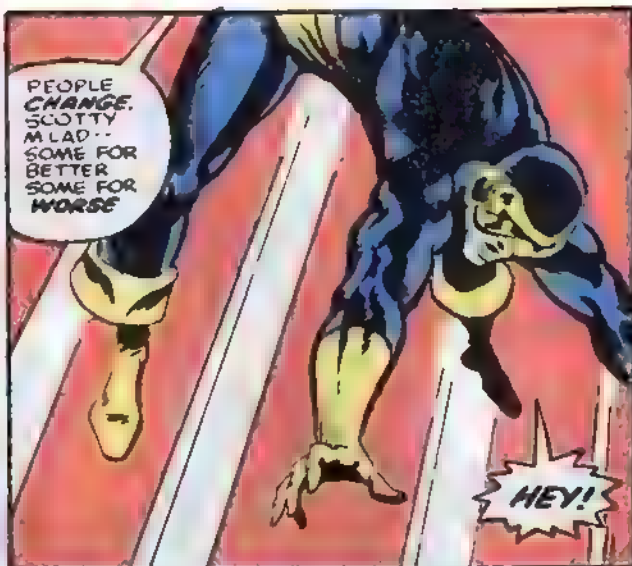
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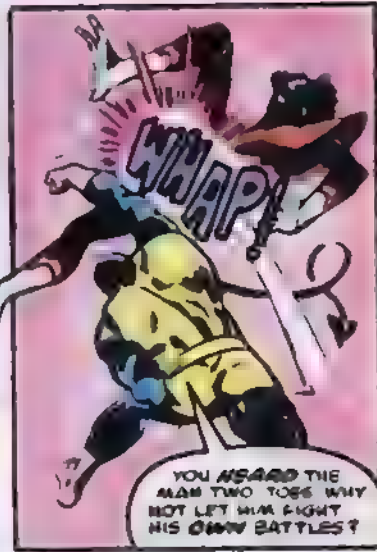
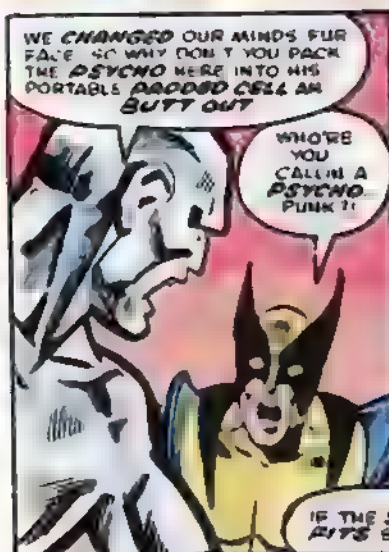
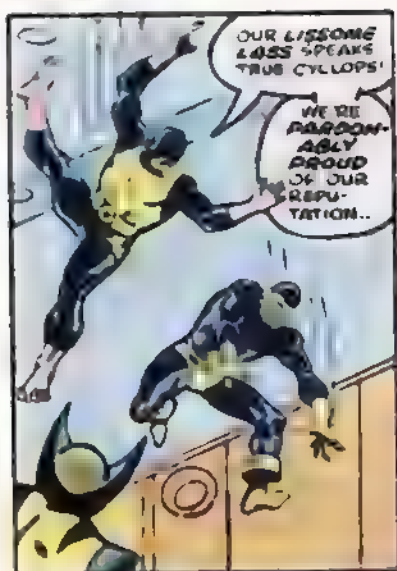
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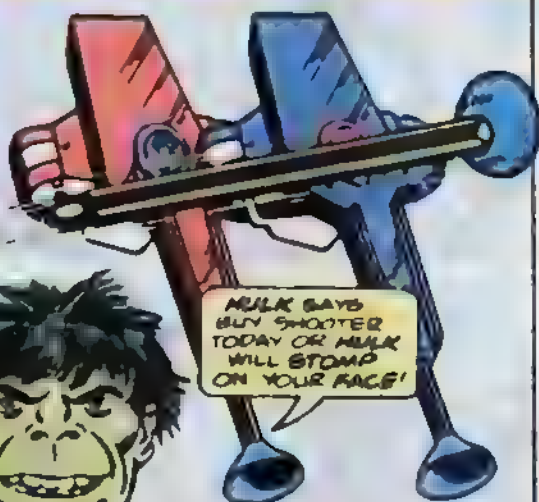
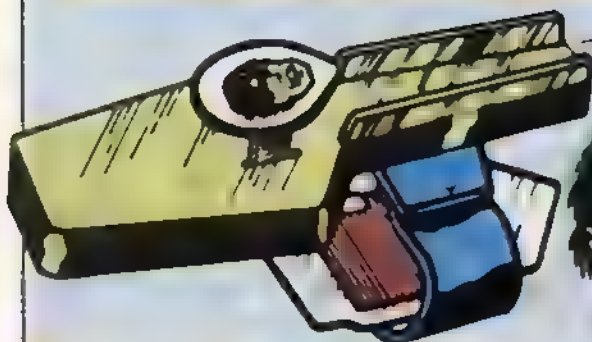
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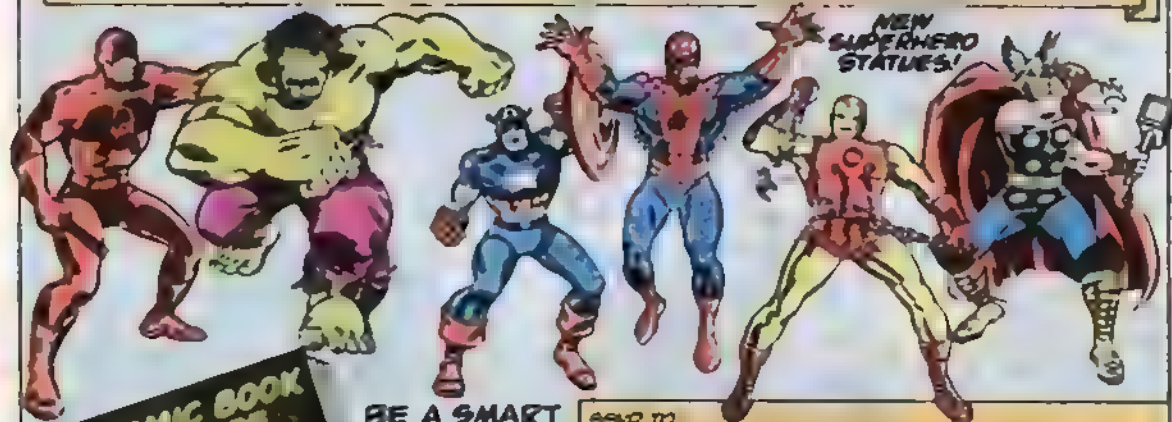
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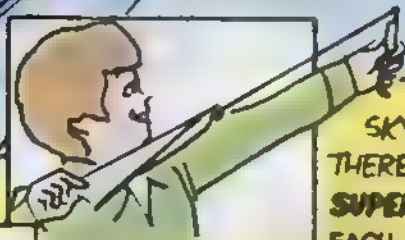
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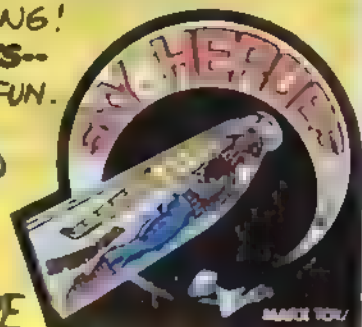
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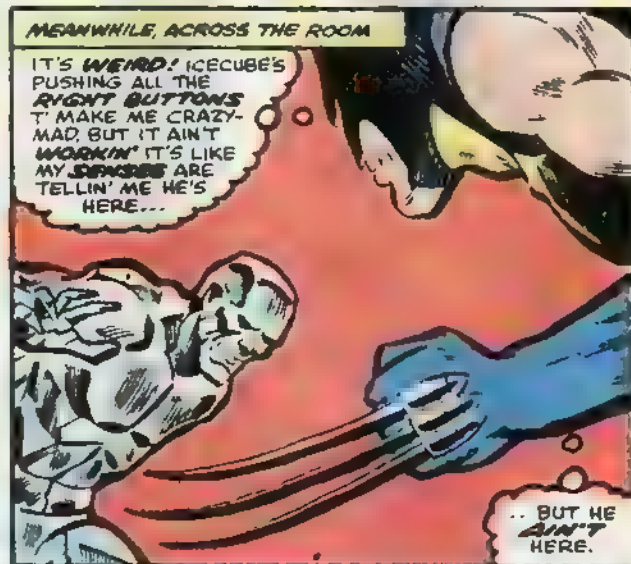
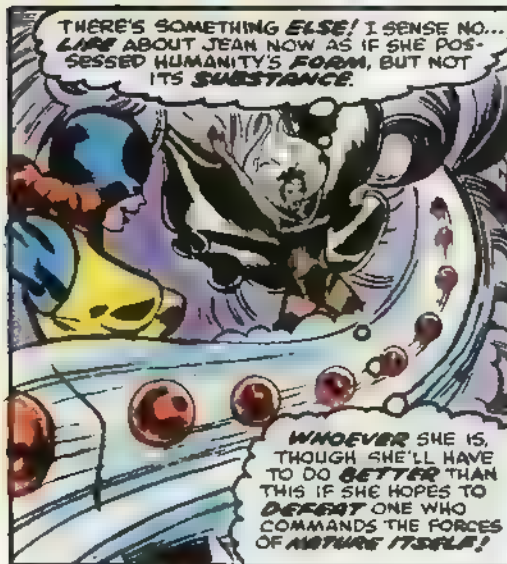
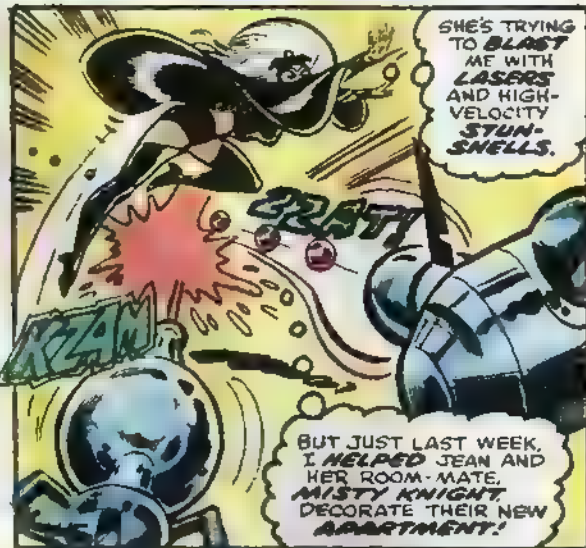
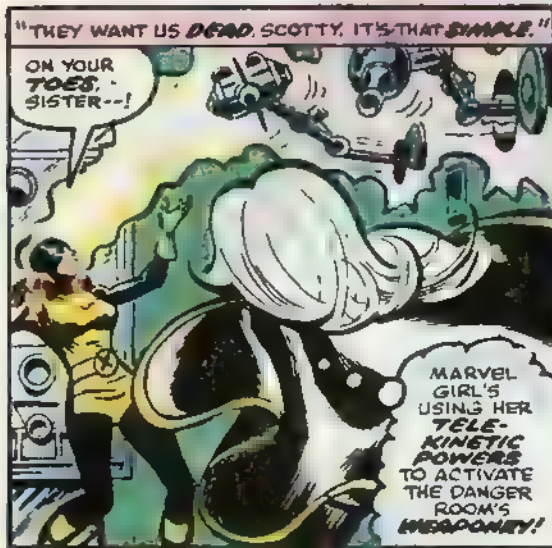
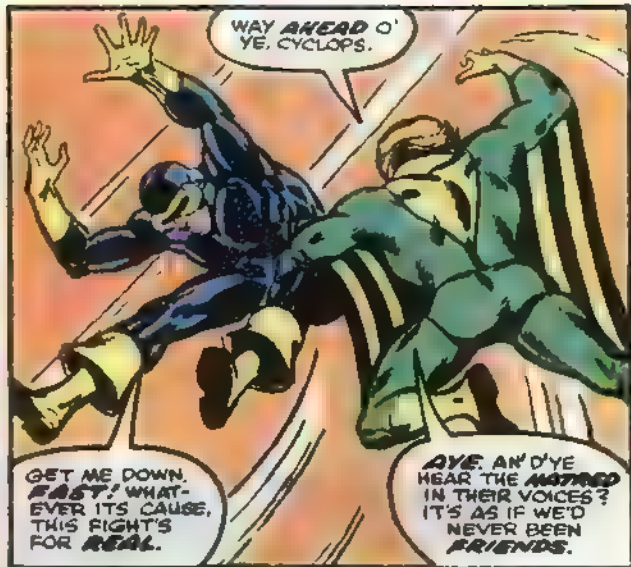
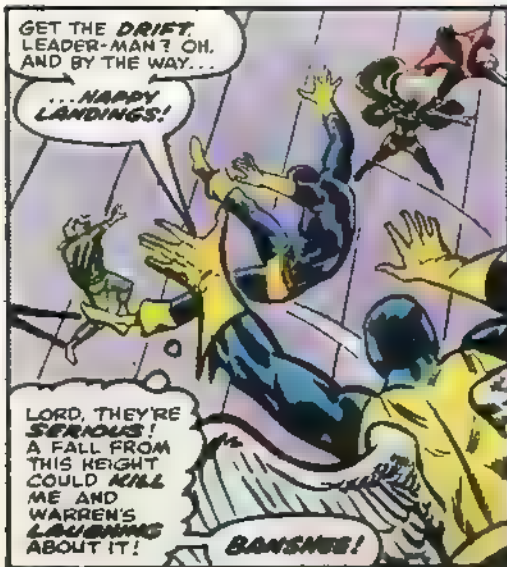


YOU ZOOM THEM AS HIGH AS 35 FEET IN THE AIR.
THEIR CAPES OPEN AND THEY FLY LIKE NOTHING
YOU'VE EVER SEEN BEFORE--SWOOPING,
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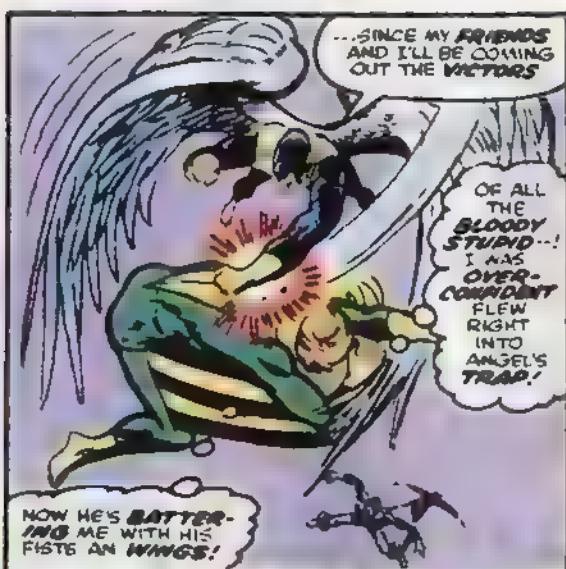
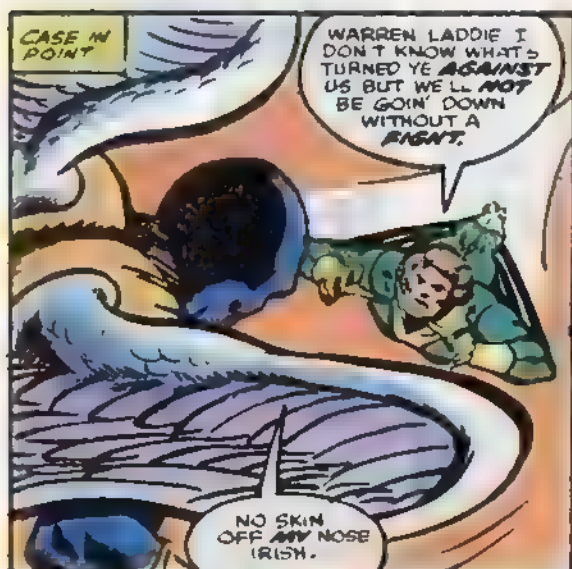


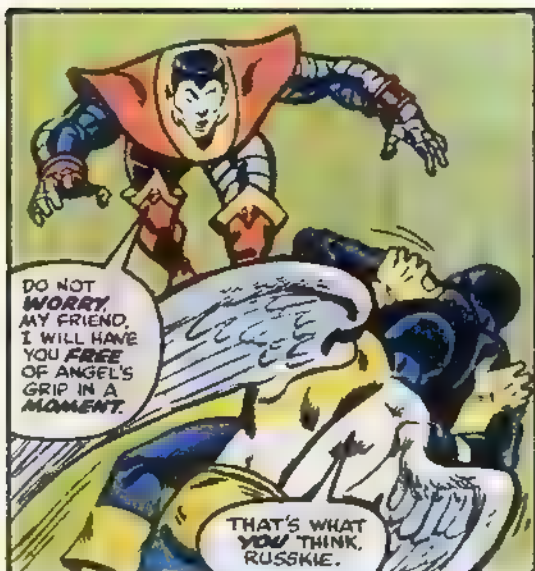
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THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK, RUSSKIE.



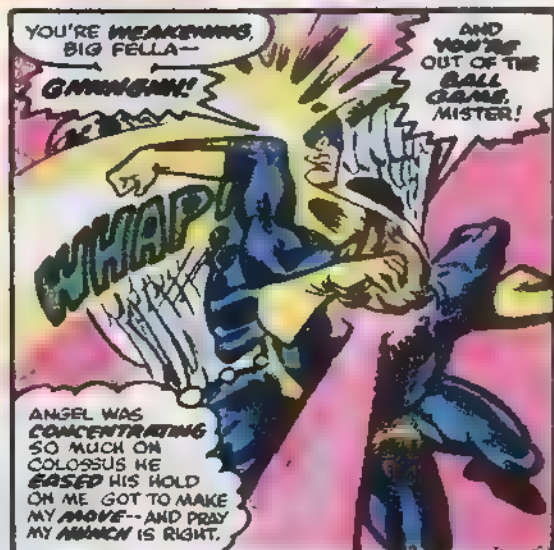
PETER, LOOK OUT! ANGELS TEARING MY WISOR OFF! MY EYE BEAMS--!

ARE YOU ON TARGET, PAL!



IF YOU THINK CYCLOPS' ENERGY BLASTS **ALONE** CAN STOP ME, ANGEL, THEN YOU DO NOT KNOW **COLOSSUS**!

BRAVE WORDS, PIOTR, BUT THE BEAMS ARE BEGINNING TO **BURN** THROUGH MY ARMORED BODY! THEY... **HURT**!



YOU'RE WEAKENING, BIG FELLA--

GRRRRRR!

AND YOU'RE OUT OF THE BALL GAME, MISTER!

ANGEL WAS CONCENTRATING SO MUCH ON COLOSSUS HE **EASED** HIS HOLD ON ME. GOT TO MAKE MY **MOVE**--AND PRAY MY **MUNCH** IS RIGHT.



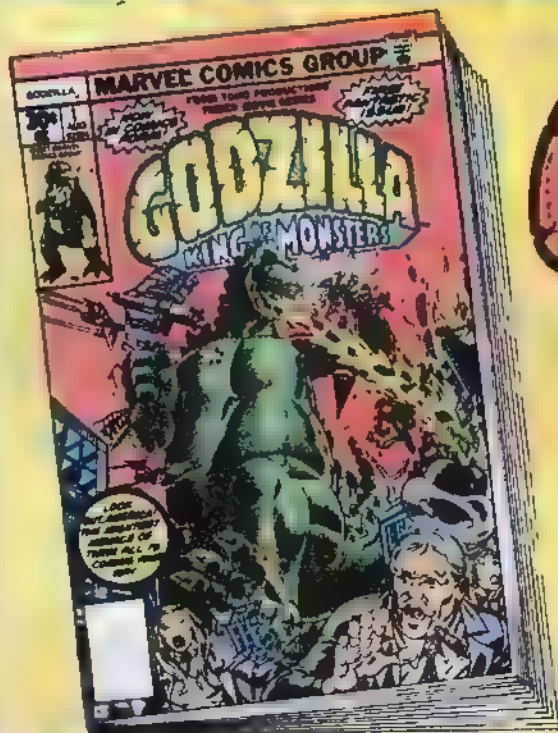
WHOEVER YOU ARE, "ANGEL," YOU TALK TOO MUCH!

YOU SAID YOU'D PROTECTED YOURSELF FROM BANSHEE'S SCREAM WITH **EARDPLUGS**--BUT THE **LOW-FREQUENCY HARMONICS** HE USED WOULD HAVE HIT YOU THROUGH YOUR **SKULL** ITSELF VIA **BONE CONDUCTION**.

THE REAL--**HUMAN**--WARREN WORTHINGTON WOULD HAVE BEEN **OUT** IN AN INSTANT AND OUT FOR **HOURS** AND IT'S MY **BET** THAT WHOEVER YOU ARE FELLA--

--YOU'RE **NOT HIM**!

HE'S COMING YOUR WAY!



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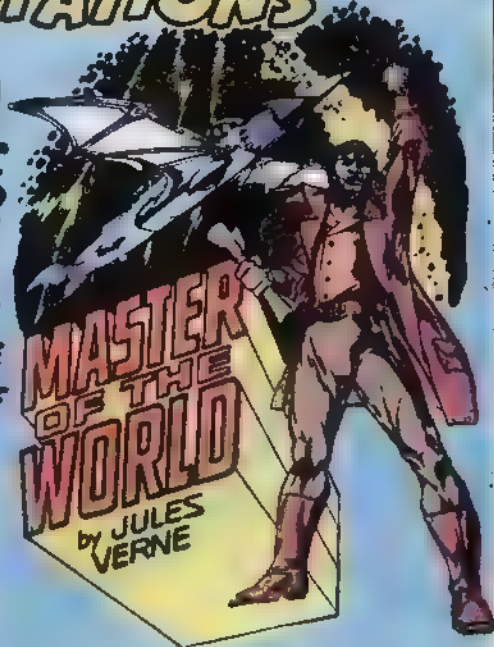
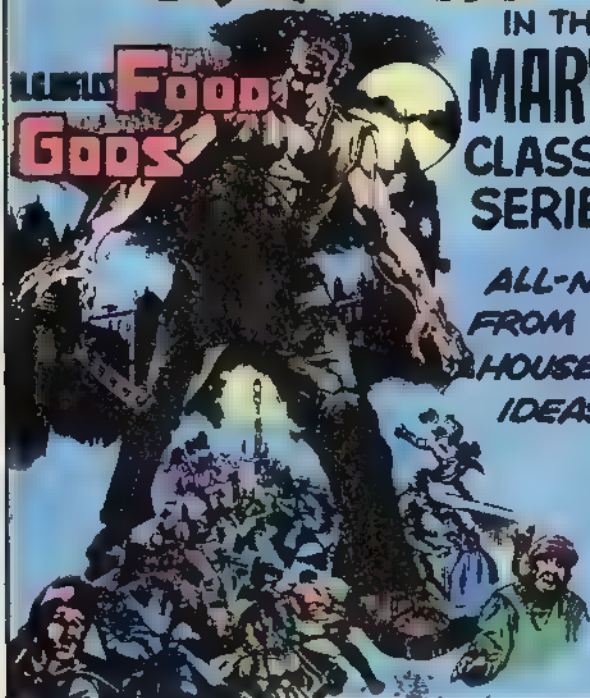
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X-MEN MAIL

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As some of you may have noticed (unless you prefer perusing the lettercol before the book itself), this issue of the X-MEN is not the much-ballyhooed, much-awaited conclusion of the "Princess/Xavier's Dream/Star War/Eric the Red" subplot that Dave and I have been building up to for longer than either of us cares to think. For reasons too diverse to mention—including, among them, a certain artist's mad determination to work on the first Marvel issue of a certain sword-wielding Southerner transplanted to very foreign climes (Mars, to be specific...on the other hand, having seen the end results on that book, I can't say as I blame Dave; it was a labor of love and it looks it; but I digress), combined with the scheduling of that book so it was due mere days before X-MEN #106... I think you get the picture. After two years and eleven issues, the Dreaded Deadline Doom finally caught up with X-MEN.

Which brings us to the issue you're holding in your hand, and some very personal thoughts on my part as to its why and wherefore. As I write these words, Bob Brown has been dead about three weeks, having succumbed to a long and debilitating illness. Anyone who knew him will miss him, and those of you who never had that privilege should miss him as well, because he was a rare, beautiful man. He was a gentleman in the truest sense of the word; he was a consummate artist, and at the same time a cultured, witty, articulate—almost renaissance—man. He was the kind of man you always wished you knew better, and if you were his friend, you were a lucky person indeed.

Bob was special.

And, in a sense, so is this X-MEN. Bob pencilled it two years ago, off Bill Mantlo's plot. The book was intended from the start to be an emergency fill-in should anything ever happen to foul-up the regular schedule. We all thought it would probably never see print; somehow, often against insurmountable odds, Dave and I always managed to get the issues out—until now, of course. But now that we are using the fill-in, I'm glad it's Bob's. When Marv Wolfman—who was editor then—and I—who was Associate Editor—first saw the job, we both concluded on the spot that if Dave should ever want off X-MEN, we had the perfect replacement artist in Bob Brown. Even then, when the series had just started and few of us had any idea where it was headed, he had an instinctive feel for the characters that in many ways equaled Dave's.

But Dave never left the book, and Bob eventually left Marvel.

And now he's gone. But the art remains, and with this issue it sees print. I can't think of any better tribute to a man who was one of the finest artists—one of the finest men—in the comic business. I only wish that it weren't necessary, that Bob himself were still alive to enjoy it for himself.

Hail and farewell, Bob. We'll all miss you.

—Chris Claremont

Dear Chris,

X-MEN #97. Professor Xavier dreams of two starfleets blasting each other with a giant binary sun in the background. We learn that he has had this dream many times but this time it ends differently, for he sees... a face!

Later in the same issue, when the poor man is trying to take a vacation, a stranger who calls himself *Eric the Red*, and who is not Cyclops in disguise, takes over Havok and Polaris. He sends them to either kidnap or kill Professor Xavier—they were stopped before it was made certain which was their objective. Why, we had no idea.

X-MEN #98. Professor X learns from his friend, Dr. Corbeau, that there's no such binary sun in the Milky Way, or at least not in the part which had been searched.

X-MEN #102: Charles Xavier sees a face in a mirror and cries out that it is the face he had seen in the dreams. The uniform does look the same but we had not seen the face so clearly before.

X-MEN #103. Eric the Red is talking to a very unsavory individual on a viewer. He addresses this creep as his liege. His liege speaks of a *Princess Neramani* who wants to contact the X-Men and who will soon reach Earth. Eric the Red promises to kill of the X-Men before she can—with *Magneto's* help.

My guess is that somewhere there is a war going on between two alien peoples (or maybe a civil war with one race). The binary sun is probably in some other galaxy. Unsavory individual's side seems to have prepared well in advance of the war. Apparently, they knew beforehand that Xavier would be the key to winning or losing this war. Eric the Red is most probably a native of the "other side" (I can't see an Earthman calling a non-Terran "my liege") who was sent to Earth some time ago to take care of the good Professor and his pupils should this Princess attempt to contact them. This agent has somehow contacted Magneto (who either grew up again before, or because of this contact) and from him learned about Scott's one-time masquerade as Eric the Red. The alien agent decided to adopt the guise for its psychological effect. He took Havok and Polaris because, (1) they're powerful, and (2) they were separated from the rest and therefore in a vulnerable position, and (3) he probably calculated on the fact that Havok is Cyclops' brother to hamper the latter's effectiveness as a leader should the two start fighting each other.

On closer examination the face in #102 could be feminine. It might be Neramani. The real puzzler in all of this is how one telepath from an obscure planet could possibly be so important to these aliens. Surely there are other telepaths closer to home for Neramani to contact?

Ann Nichols
4864 Sioux Avenue
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

You got it, Ann; we were going to print a brief recap of what's been going on, i.e., these many issues—so people wouldn't forget before #107—but you've beaten us to it. What's more, most of your deductions are correct. Kudos. As for why (Lilandra) Neramani is trying so desperately to contact Xavier, that answer can be found in next issue. It's a simple reason, but one with profound implications for both Xavier and the Princess. We'd say more, but we're way short of space this lettercol.

Marvel,

I've only one complaint concerning the X-MEN. It's not monthly!

Kurt Hornick
27 White Oaks Road
Hyde Park, NY 12538

Dear Marvel,

What more can a fan ask for? Colorful heroes, dastardly foes and intriguing plots. Why isn't such a tremendous comic monthly?

Dave Clark
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NEXT ISSUE. Finally, the very long-awaited conclusion (rather, the first part of it) of "Xavier's Dream", featuring the introduction of the *Starjammers*, and, quite possibly, the end of the *Universe*! Join us in 60 days as our mutant maniacs journey...

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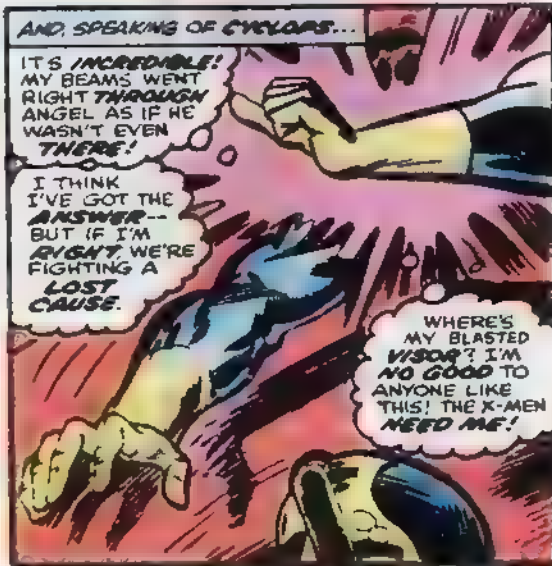
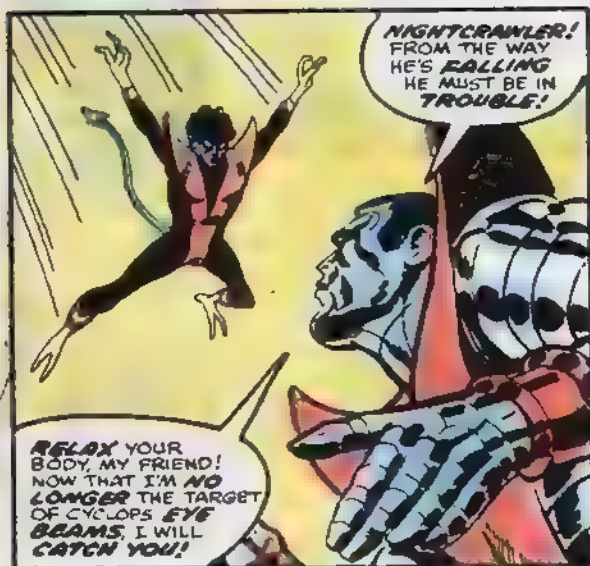
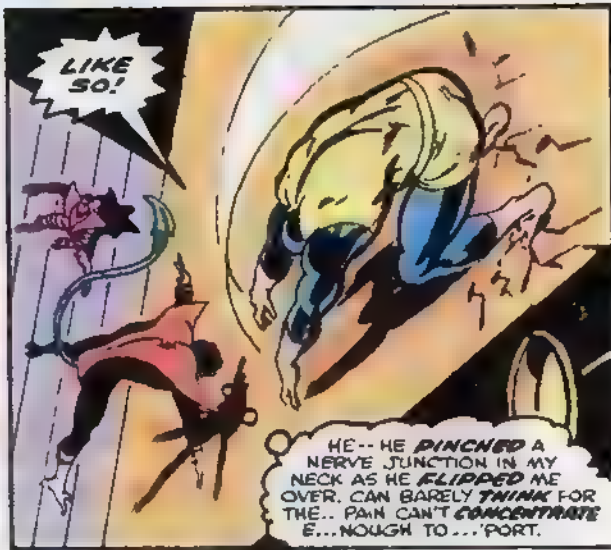
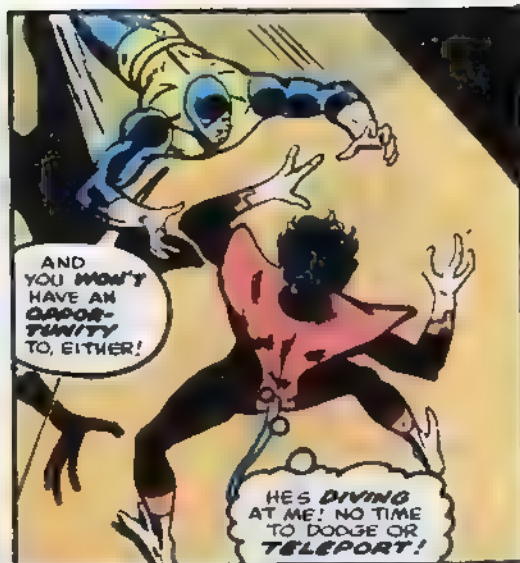
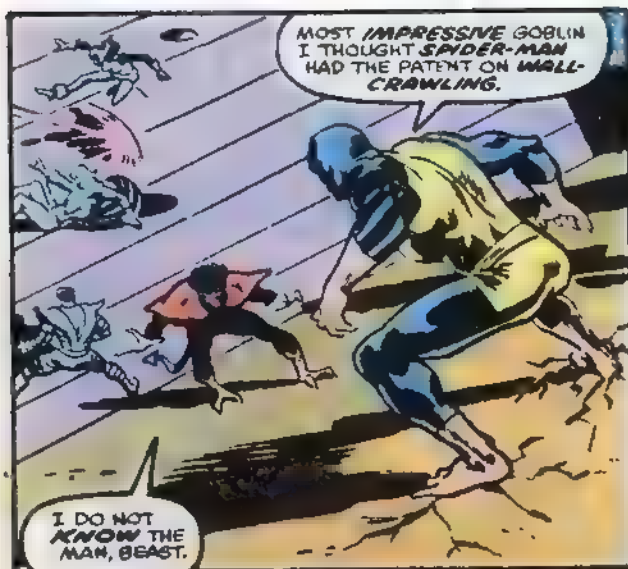
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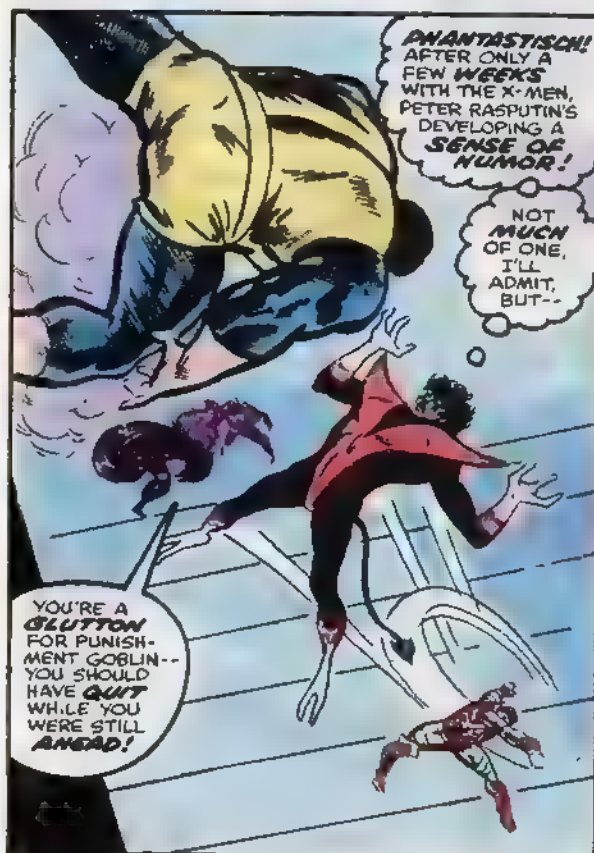
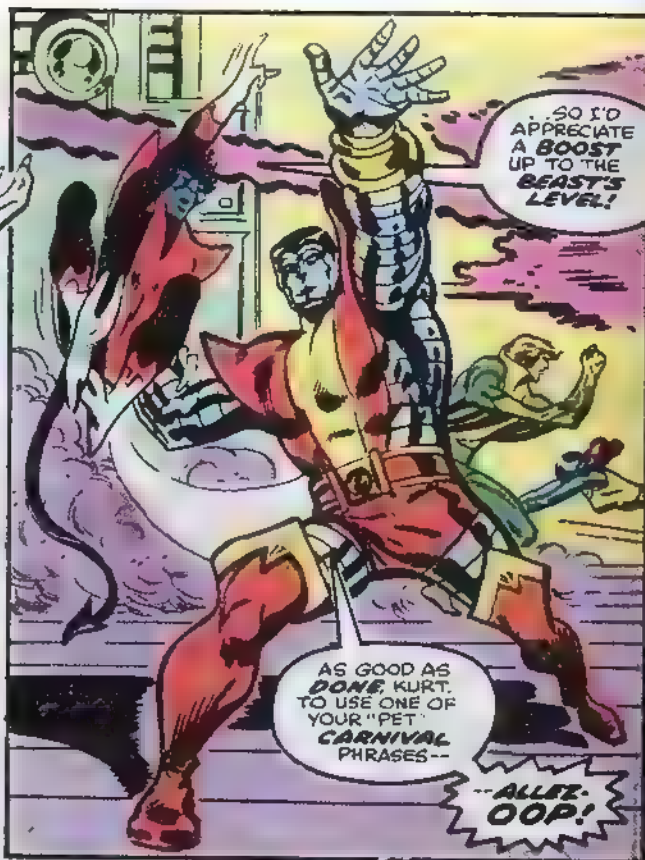
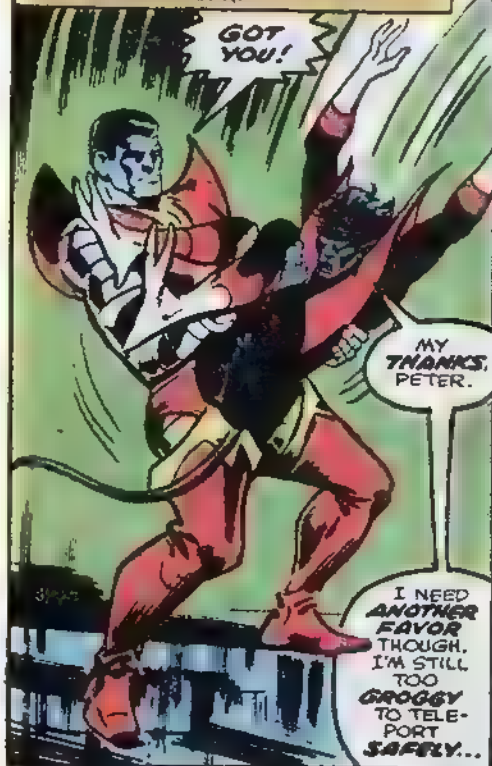
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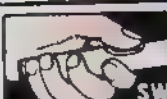
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YOU CAUGHT THE **FULL BRUNT** OF A CLOSE RANGE **OPTIC BLAST** ANGEL, BUT YOU'RE NOT EVEN **SCRATCHED!** WE **ALL** SUSPECTED THE TRUTH... BUT NOW I'M **SURE!**

-- WE'RE NOT FIGHTING **PEOPLE** AT ALL! WE'RE FIGHTING **IMAGES!**

GO TO THE **HEAD** OF THE CLASS SCOTT! WE WERE **WONDERING** WHEN YOU'D PUT IT ALL **TOGETHER.**

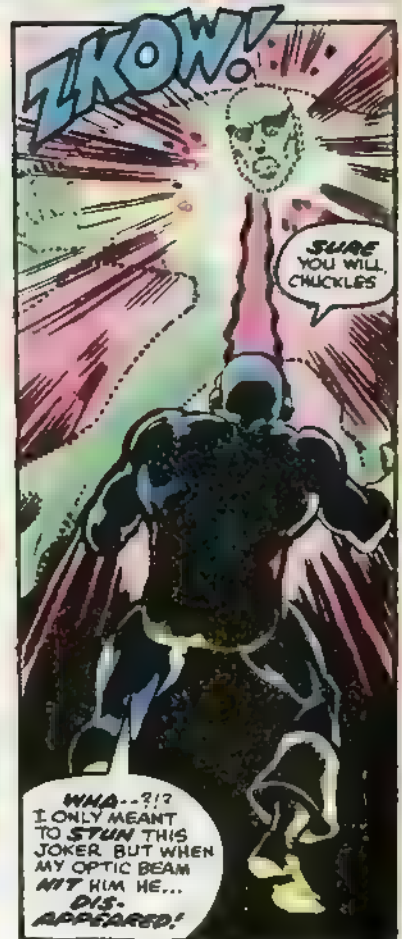
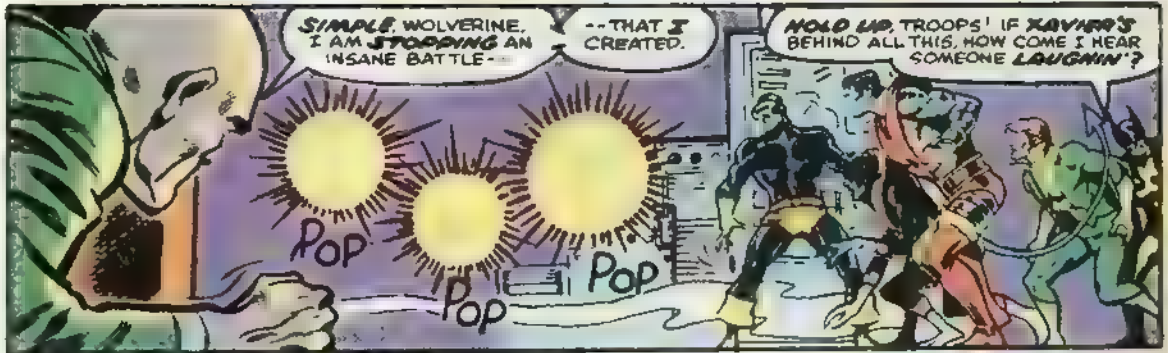
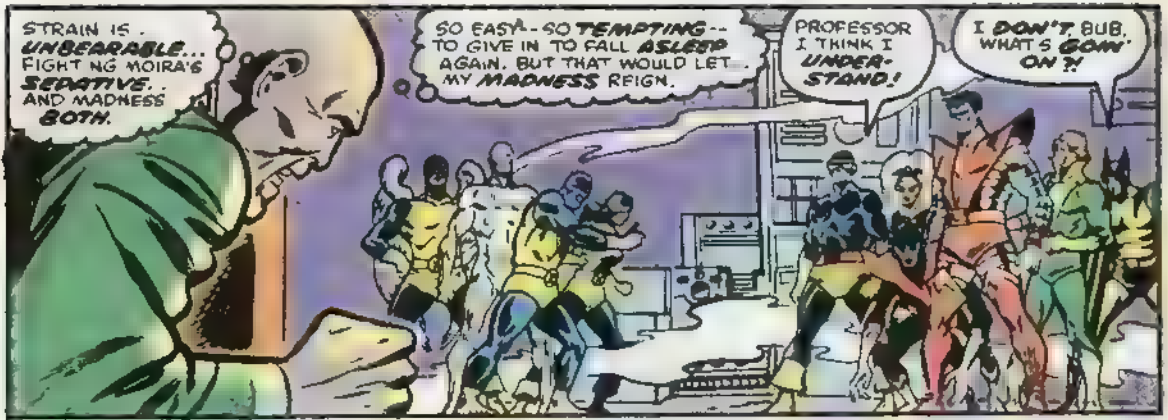
NOT THAT IT'LL DO YOU ANY **GOOD** SURE, WE'RE **IMAGES** BUT WE'RE ALSO **REAL.** WE CAN HURT WE CAN **KILL,** AND WE NEVER GET **TIRED.** IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF **TIME** BEFORE WE **WEAR** YOU **DOWN.**

HECK SCOTT, YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW **WHO**-- OR **WHAT**-- IS **CREATING** US, YOU CAN'T **STOP** US.

BUT-- I CAN!!

BREAK OFF THIS **BATTLE X-MEN!** FOR AS I **CREATED** BOTH THE **OLD** AND **NEW** TEAMS... I **CREATED** BOTH SIDES OF THIS **INSANE** **CONFLICT...**

...SO SHALL I **DESTROY** THEM!





MARVEL BULLPEN BULLETINS

ARCHIE GOODWIN, Editor • JIM SHOOTER, Associate Editor • ROGER SLIFER, ROGER STERN, ED HANNIGAN, RALPH MACCHIO, Assistant Editors • ROY THOMAS, LEN WEIN, MARV WOLFGAN, STEVE GERBER, JACK KIRBY, Consulting Editors • JOHN ROMITA, MARIE SEVERIN, Art Directors • JOHN VERPOORTEN, Production Manager • IRVING FORBUSH, Basket-keeping

STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

Hi, Believers! Hey, I finally found a way to get myself off the hook with you! I'm always getting letters from frantic ones complaining that they missed a Marvel radio or TV interview because they didn't know it would be on the air until too late, and demanding that we let 'em know in advance. And, as I keep trying to explain, we usually can't let you know in advance because those air dates are made after our mags are already at the printers. But—here's one case where we're able to tip you off in plenty of time (so you can be sure to miss it!) I'm writing these imperishable words at the end of February '77, and they'll be printed in our mags that go on sale in May. Now, I just made a commitment to do a half-hour radio interview on what is probably the largest-audience radio program in the country, FOCUS ON YOUTH. It's supposed to be aired late in May or early June. Some of their previous guests have been Walter Mondale, Dick Cavett, Ayn Rand, and Ted Kennedy. I guess they invited me hoping that I'd put in a good word for them with Howard the Duck! Anyway, the FOCUS ON YOUTH producers gave me a list of stations for you which are scheduled to carry the interview, and now, before I forget, here 'tis:

New York: WNBC AM
Los Angeles: KRTH FM, KMET FM
Chicago: WBBM, WBBM FM
Philadelphia: WIFB FM
Detroit: WJW AM & FM
Boston: WBZ AM & FM
Miami: WGBS AM
Cleveland: WJW AM
Houston: KTRH AM, KLOL FM
Minneapolis: WUTC AM
Atlanta: WSB AM & FM
Baltimore: WBAL AM & FM
Seattle: KIRO AM, KSEA FM
Denver: KDAQ FM
Buffalo: WBBN AM & FM
Hartford: WTCN AM & FM
Richmond: WRVA AM, WRVQ FM
Norfolk: WTAZ AM
St. Louis: KMOX AM & FM
Pittsburgh: KDKA AM
Rochester: WAXC AM
Portland: KXL AM & FM
San Diego: KGB AM & FM
Birmingham: WVOK AM

Fitchburg, Mass.: WEIM-AM
Worcester, N. H.: WSRS-FM
Portsmouth, N. H.: WHEB AM & FM
New Orleans: WWL AM & FM
Nashville: WSIX AM & FM
Memphis: WMC AM & FM
Providence: WJAR AM
Tampa: WFLA AM & FM
Des Moines: WHO AM, KLYF-FM
Charlotte: WSOB AM & FM
Fresno: KARM-AM
Jacksonville: WJAX AM & FM
Schenectady: WGY AM, WGFM-FM
Orlando: WLOF AM, WLOQ-FM
Spokane: KHQ AM & FM
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Cincinnati: WLW AM
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Fall River: WSAW AM
Ft. Wayne: WOWO-AM
Harrisburg: WCMB, WFSM
Rochester: WHAM
Norfolk: WKLX
Allentown: WAEB

I suggest you call whichever station is in your area to find out the exact date and time. Boy, won't it be awful if a lot of people are listening in and I come across sounding like Irving Forbush? (Especially when everyone knows I really sound like J. Jonah Jameson!) And now, before I let you get back to the real world, remember a couple of months ago when I asked if anyone knew how to pronounce "Caid muid faile"? Here's the first answer we got, from our newest giant size no-prize winner, Juliane Seeley of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and here's J.S.'s letter: "According to Irish Gaelic your phrase is pronounced 'cade me lay faults'. Though Scottish Gaelic belongs to a slightly different family of the language, the pronunciation would be much the same." And in case you've all forgotten, our frenetic little phrase means "A hundred thousand welcomes"—which, until next ish, is what I wish to you!

Excelsior!

ITEM! For all of you who do your comics buying at a local 7-ELEVEN® store, there's another harbinger of Summer in the wings, namely a new set of Mighty Marvel Slurpee cups. Several seasons back, the Slurpee cups featured all the Marvel characters (including one of STAN THE MAN himself) and have gone on to become full fledged collector's items, scrambled for, fought over, and sold at inflationary prices at most comics conventions. This time around, instead of mere solitary poses, the cups feature panoramic wrap around scenes of our characters in the kind of awesome action that's the Marvel trademark. As artfully assembled and creatively colored by the bullpen's own Peerless PATY, we think this new set is going to be even more highly treasured than the first one. So, a word to the wise is sufficient. These Slurpee cups go on sale in the early summer. Watch for 'em and gloat on to them fast!



ITEM! A couple of Bullpen Bulletins back, we told you about the great GODZILLA book we had in the works. Well, this month it hits your newsstand and if you're just half as happy with the results as we were when we saw what Devil-may-care DOUG MOENCH, Happy HERB TRIMPE, and Jaunty JIM MOONEY had done with Toho Productions' lively large lizard, then we've a definite hit in the making.

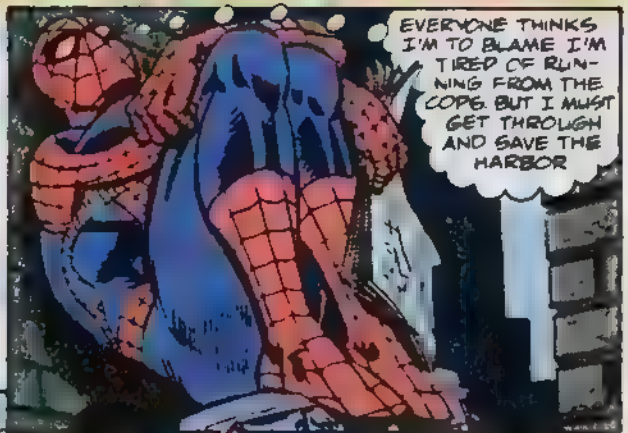
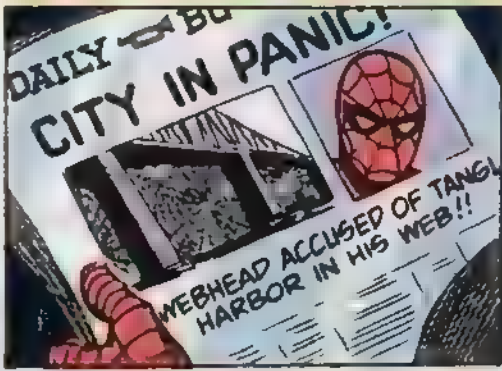
ITEM! As long as we've got you checking things out, we'd also like to draw your attention to the latest issue of WHAT IF? which explores the alternate reality that might be if "The invaders Had Stayed Together after World War II." Also on sale this month is the second issue of our six-part adaptation of the George Lucas Twentieth Century Fox film, STAR WARS. And coming up in late June is another special film adaptation, THE ISLAND OF DR. MOREAU. But more about it next time around. Till then, keep on thinking Marvel!

Shortly after the completion of last month's Bullpen Bulletin, we received the saddest news that artist BOB BROWN had died of leukemia. Bob is probably best known to Marvel readers for his penciling work on DAREDEVIL, as well as on AVENGERS and MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE. During the last few years, Bob had also done much to promote better communication and exchange of ideas between American and European cartoonists. He was a gifted professional artist and a quiet, warm human being. He'll be sorely missed.

ITEM! Spring is still several weeks in the future as your amiable armadillos set this in type, but signs of Summer loom large in our vision. One of the surest signs—at least in the mixed-up Marvel manner of viewing things—is the appearance of our colossal King-size Annuals, and this month heralds the arrival of the first two of these! Kicking things off will be the IRON MAN ANNUAL, in which the armored Avenger joins forces with the Champions to try to avert the most devastating disaster to menace the West Coast since the Hulk lost a can of his favorite beans in the San Andreas fault. JIM SHOOTER plotted it, BILL MANTLO wrote it, GEORGE TUSKA and DON PERLIN penciled and inked it to perfection... all you have to do is sit back, read it, and enjoy! And should you

crave more—in fact, we're kinda counting on it—Jolly JACK KIRBY has created, with the abiding assistance of JOHN VERPOORTEN and JOHN TARTAGLIONE, a king-size clash with that most malevolent of master villains, Magneto, for the CAPTAIN AMERICA ANNUAL. Just to make certain you get your money's worth, Jack's also tossing in an entirely new Brotherhood of Evil Mutants. It all adds up to deadly danger for Cap, but a guaranteed 34 pages of sheer thrills for you. Between our Annuals and other special projects—like our incredible KISS book which goes on sale next month—we've got a summerful of way-out wonderment planned for you. Get in on it early so you don't miss any of the fun!

SPIDER-MAN AND MADAM WEB!



EVERYONE THINKS I'M TO BLAME I'M TIRED OF RUNNING FROM THE COPE. BUT I MUST GET THROUGH AND SAVE THE HARBOR

I LOVED SPIDER-MAN, BUT HE REJECTED ME-- ME, MADAM WEB!! SO-- MY REVENGE-- I'LL MAKE EVERYONE BLAME HIM FOR TANGLING THE HARBOR

MADAM WEB-- THAT LOVE-CRAZED FIEND!

WELL-- WHAT IF I GIVE YOU A WHOLE BUNCH OF DELICIOUS HOSTESS® TWINKIES® CAKES INSTEAD? WOULD YOU CLEAR THE HARBOR AND MY GOOD NAME?

SPIDER-MAN, MY ONLY LOVE, COME WITH ME AND LET'S RUN AWAY.

OH! FOR THAT-- I'D CLEAR UP THE OCEAN-- THE WORLD-- ANYTHING--

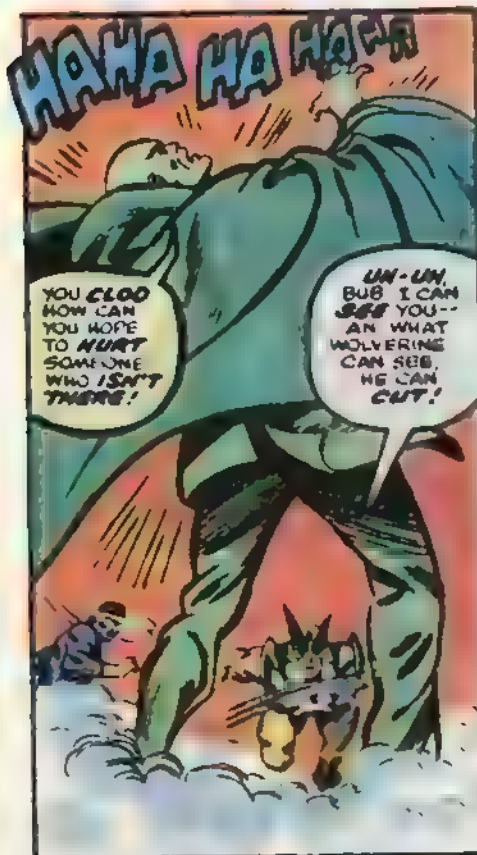
--OH-- GOLDEN SPONGE CAKE --CREAMED FILLING!

FIRST I LOSE SPIDER-MAN, THEN HOSTESS TWINKIES CAKES! WHAT A TANGLED WEB!

SHE IS SUCH A LOYAL ADMIRER OF MINE!

YAAAY! SPIDER-MAN YAAAY! TWINKIES CAKES!





HAHA HA HAHA

YOU CLOD
HOW CAN
YOU HOPE
TO HURT
SOMEONE
WHO ISN'T
THERE!

UN-UN,
BUB I CAN
SEE YOU--
AN WHAT
WOLVERINE
CAN SEE
HE CAN
CUT!



ONLY IF YOU
REACH ME
LITTLE MAN

CRIPES!
HE TORE THE
FLOOR OPEN
WITH A MOVE
OF HIS HAND!
IT'S SOME
KINDA
BOTTOM-
LESS PIT--

--AN' I'M
FALLIN'
IN!

WOLVERINE,
NO!

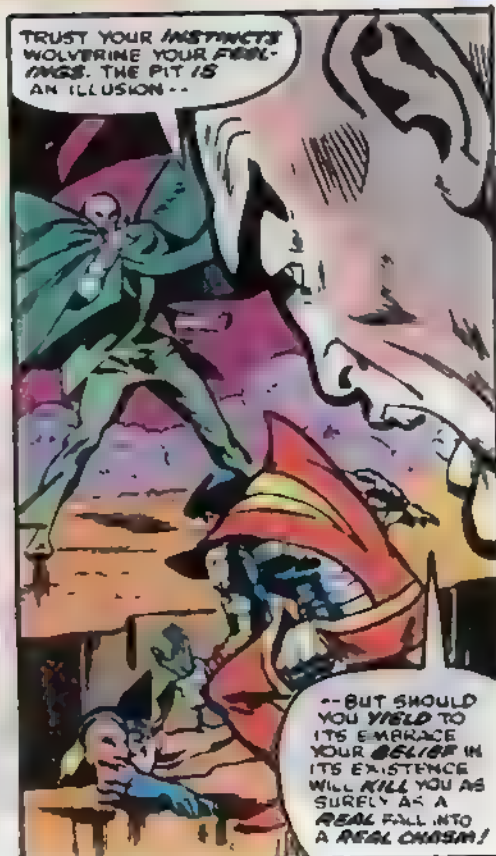


I HAVE YOU,
COMRADE.

WHAT
TOOK YA
BUB?

THIS IS
CRAZY!
MY MIND
FEELS LIKE
IT'S BURNIN'
UP PART OF
IT TELLIN' ME
I'M HANGIN'
OVER A
CHASM--

--PART OF IT TELLIN'
ME THIS IS ALL AN
ILLUSION THAT I'M REALLY
LYIN' ON THE FLOOR O'
THE DANGER ROOM. IT
FEELS WRONG BUT--OH,
MY GOD!--IT LOOKS SO
REAL!



TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS
WOLVERINE YOUR FEEL-
INGS. THE PIT IS
AN ILLUSION--

--BUT SHOULD
YOU YIELD TO
ITS EMBRACE
YOUR BELIEF IN
ITS EXISTENCE
WILL KILL YOU AS
SURELY AS A
REAL FALL INTO
A REAL CHASM!

AS FOR MY DAEMONIC **DOPPELGÄNGER**, HE IS NOT THE **ONLY** ONE WHO CAN TOY WITH **IMAGES**.

THE OLD X-MEN! WHAT--???



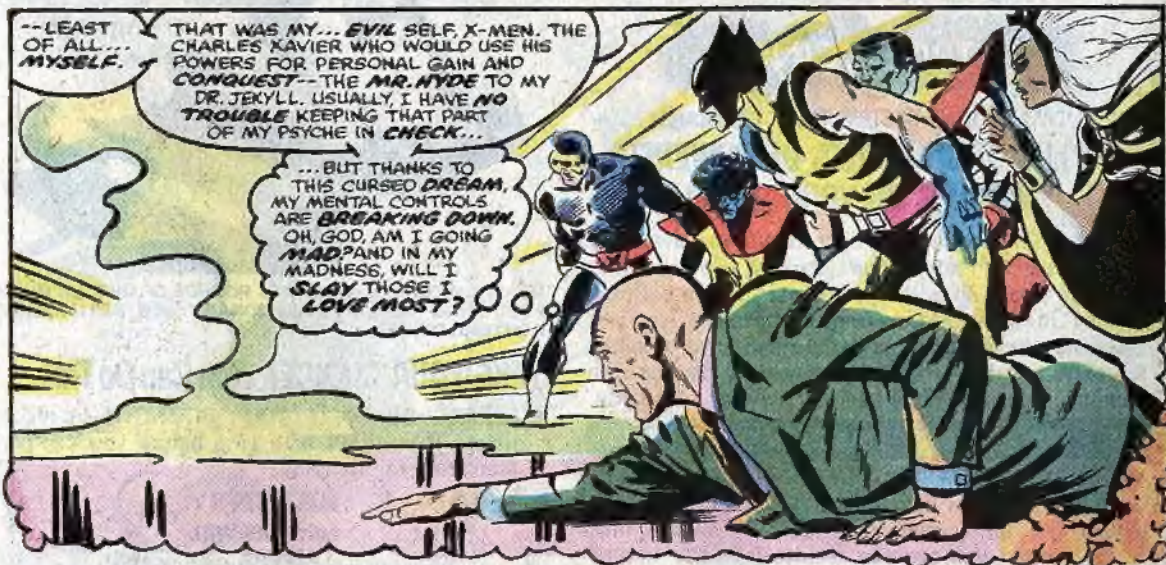
NO!
PLEASE--
NO!!

THE **SANCTITY** OF MY MIND IS VERY **PRECIOUS** TO ME. I'LL NOT HAVE IT **USURPED** BY ANYONE--

--LEAST OF ALL--
MYSELF.

THAT WAS MY... **EVIL** SELF, X-MEN. THE **CHARLES XAVIER** WHO WOULD USE HIS **POWERS** FOR **PERSONAL GAIN** AND **CONQUEST**-- THE **MR. HYDE** TO MY **DR. JEKYLL**. USUALLY, I HAVE **NO TROUBLE** KEEPING THAT PART OF MY **PSYCHE** IN **CHECK**...

...BUT THANKS TO THIS **CURSED DREAM**, MY **MENTAL CONTROLS** ARE **BREAKING DOWN**. OH, GOD, AM I GOING **MAD**? AND IN MY **MADNESS**, WILL I **SLAY** THOSE I **LOVE** MOST?



HE KNOWS NOW THAT WHAT'S **TORMENTED** HIM THESE PAST MONTHS HASN'T BEEN **MADNESS** AT ALL, BUT A **FORCED RAPPORT** BETWEEN TWO **TELEPATHIC MINDS** THAT ARE **STRIKINGLY SIMILAR** YET **FRIGHTENINGLY ALIEN**.

AND BY **RELIVING** THE **FIRST** MANIFESTATION OF THIS "NIGHTMARE," HE'S **FINALLY LAID** HIS **PERSONAL DEMONS** TO **REST**.

FOR THE **FIRST TIME** IN MANY MONTHS, **CHARLES XAVIER** IS AT **PEACE**. BUT IF THE **X-MEN FAIL**-- AS WELL THEY **MIGHT**-- THEN IT'S A **PEACE** WHOSE **LIFE** CAN BE MEASURED IN **HOURS**.



**NEXT
ISSUE:**

FINALLY--PART 1 OF THE **CONCLUSION** OF **RAVEN'S DREAM**. AS THE **X-MEN** FIND THEMSELVES **FIGHTING** FOR THEIR **LIVES**-- WITH THE **RATE** OF THE **UNIVERSE** ITSELF **HANGING IN THE BALANCE**--

WHERE NO X-MAN HAS GONE BEFORE!

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"I'm transforming all the fat off my body and changing it into rock-hard muscle. It's amazing. I have lost 8" off my waist. I can actually see my muscles growing from day to day." P. Williams

"I have gained 20 pounds in just 30 days and I have gained over 6 inches on my chest. I find that my power has doubled. In sports I am a winner in everything I do." B. Daniels

"I have gained 5" on my arms and 12" on my chest, while losing 3" off my waist. I have tripled my power and speed. Thanks for what you have done for me!" M. Robinson



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ALMOST LIKE
MAGIC!**



**FAT?
FAT WILL
DISAPPEAR -
REPLACED BY
MUSCLES!**



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YEAH, THOSE VINYL BALLS ARE JUST TOO SLICK!



AW, WHAT DIFFERENCE CAN THE BALL MAKE?



MY MAN, FOR REAL BALL HANDLING, YOU NEED THAT

...SPALDING TOUCH!!!

SLAM DUNK!

HE PLAYS UP IN THE LIGHTS!

WHAT MOVES!



NOW IT'S MY TURN, JULIUS!

A 30-FOOTER!!

WHAT A MAGIC TOUCH!

SWISH!!

YOU DON'T NEED MAGIC - JUST PRACTICE WITH A SPALDING AUTOGRAPH BALL. IT'S GOT A RUBBER COVER SO YOU CAN REALLY GET A GRIP ON IT.



I BELIEVE IT! I BELIEVE IT!!

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